

SECRET		REPORT	50X1
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SUBJECT	1. Soviet OB, Labor Units, Engineer Units 2. Soviet Officer Assignments 3. Security of Soviet Nationalities 4. Officer and EM Educational Standards and Training	NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)	50X1
PLACE ACQUIRED		SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT	
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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION			

Additional OB Information

- 50X1 1. The 4th Gds. Mecz. Army had, besides the 108th Sep. Sig. Bn., stationed in Finow, an unidentified Signal Regiment in the Panzer Caserne, Eberswalde, and another unidentified Sep. Sig. Bn., location unknown.
- 50X1 2. Unidentified Motorcycle Bn., subordinate to 4th Gds. Mecz. Army, stationed in the Panzer Caserne, Eberswalde, CO were unknown. This unit had US-made Harley-Davidson and Soviet-made M-72 motorcycles with sidecars.
- 50X1 3. Located directly behind headquarters of 4th Gds. Mecz. Army in Panzer Caserne, Eberswalde, was a unit of about company size, called "Maj. YANVAREV's unit".
- 50X1 This unit occupied a fenced-off area to which only officers and EM of the unit were admitted. There was much gossip and speculation among the officers of 4th Gds. Mecz. Army concerning this unit, because it had its own administration and "Desanty" (air-borne or tankborne) troops were trained there. Maj. YANVAREV was due to return to USSR in 1953.

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(Pontonno-Mostovoy).

Labor Battalions

- 50X1 13. labor battalions in the Caucasus, in regular engineer uniforms (black shoulder boards with black piping) working on reconstruction of the Sochi railroad station.

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4. Unidentified Bakery Unit, subordinate to 4th Gds. Mecz. Army, stationed in Finowfurt N 52-51, E 13-417, FPN and CO unknown. See Encl. A for exact location. The Soviet term for the Bakery Unit was Pakh-Polevoi Armeyskiy Khlebnny Zavod (Field Army bread factory).

50X1 5. Soviet officers in Finow had their laundry done by German women, even though this practice was strictly prohibited. EM laundry was sent out each Monday from the Finow units in bales to a German laundry in Finow [] and was picked up on Saturdays. EM took showers each Saturday, and at that time, they were given clean underwear - not their own, but the next handy shirt and drawers in the bundle. On Saturdays, EM turned in two shirts, two pillowcases, one towel, one undershirt, one pair of drawers and one pair of footwraps (portyanki). There were no unit designations or FPN on laundry bundles or on correspondence bills pertaining to the laundry. []

50X1 [] the German laundry owner knew exactly how many Soviet EM were in Finow.

6. A medical platoon (Sanvzod) was subordinate to 4th Gds. Mecz. Army. It was located at the 4th Gds. Mecz. Army hospital in Eberswalde and was administered by the hospital. [] the platoon consisted of three or four officers and 30 to 35 EM, the latter being drivers and medical orderlies. They had 17 vehicles, open trucks (not ambulances), ZIS-5 or GAS-51. They also had three trucks equipped as "mobile bath units". However, these were never used.

50X1 [] these vehicles and equipment in an unserviceable state.

7. 1563rd Auto Parts Depot, located at Lvov, subordinate to Carpathian Mil. Dist. Lt. Col. Aleksander Nikolayevich YAMPOLSKIY was the CO. [] The office phone of Col. YAMPOLSKIY was Lvov 28231 and his home phone was LVOV 11115. []

50X1 8. 63rd Auto Repair Plant in Stanislavov N 48-56, E 24-427, subordinate to Carpathian Mil. Dist., deactivated in 1949. (Worked only on engines for jeeps and trucks.)

50X1 9. 28th Auto Repair Shop, located on Lenin Street, Lvov, subordinate to Carpathian Mil. Dist. Up to reassignment to Austria in 1951, Col. (fnu) TRUSHKOVSKIY was the CO. This Auto Repair Shop repaired all military trucks of the Carpathian Mil. Dist. []

50X1 10. 128th Stationary Auto Repair Shop, stationed in Lvov. This repair shop, subordinate to Carpathian Mil. Dist., repaired all military sedans of the Carpathian Mil. Dist. []

50X1 11. Maj. Gen. (fnu) PETROVSKIY was chief of the Auto-Tractor Administration of the Carpathian Mil. Dist. in January 1953.

50X1 Engineer Troops

50X1 12. The [] engineer troops were classified in the Soviet Army by functions [] given the 1712th Sep. Sapper Bn. (Otdelnyy Sapernyy), a unit which laid mines during World War II, and the 3rd Pontoon-Bridge Bn. (Pontonno-Mostovoy).

50X1 Labor Battalions

50X1 13. [] labor battalions [] in the Caucasus, [] regular engineer uniforms (black shoulder boards with black piping) working on reconstruction of the Sochi railroad station. [] these were labor units []

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Additional Information on Assignment of Officers

50X1 14. [] all the officers' qualifications were entered in their personal file (Lichnoe Delo) and an officer, on being assigned to Germany, would only in exceptional circumstances be subject to a special investigation by the Counterintelligence agencies.

50X1 a. [] following [] reasons why an officer would not be sent to Germany:

- 50X1 (1) Not serving specific time in USSR before starting a second tour in Germany. An officer had to serve 2½ to 3 years in the USSR before being reassigned to Germany.
- (2) He had been previously sent away from Germany at 24 hours notice. This would either be for political unreliability or for long and persistent fraternization with a German woman.
- (3) Low medical category (TB, stomach ulcers).
- (4) A very sick member (wife or child) in the officer's family.
- (5) An officer's wife and/or children had spent more than a year in territory occupied by the enemy during the war. If the officer himself was a member of the Communist Party and of good antecedents and had other guarantees for him he could, however, be sent to the Soviet Zone of Germany.
- (6) Being of Jewish faith.
- (7) General moral qualities such as drink, attitude toward women (divorces).
- (8) Officers with large families - four or five children of school age.
- 50X1 (9) Members of national minorities - not strictly applied. [] only three per cent of all troops in GOFG belonged to national minorities.

50X1 [] it was not an easy method to find officer replacements for Germany. High-ranking officers in Moscow with "pull" (blat) often arranged to have their friends and/or subordinates transferred to Germany on their staffs, regardless if they were qualified as stated above.

50X1 b. [] if Soviet officers were allowed to have their wives and families with them, they would be pleased to serve in Germany. In Germany they could live on their East marks allowance and save an appreciable amount in rubles for their return to the USSR. Food and officers' quarters were much better than in the Soviet Union.

50X1 c. In reference to the length of service of officers in Germany, [] an officer who started a tour in GOFG in December had to serve until December three years later, or for exactly 36 months. On the other hand, if he arrived in January, he had to serve until December four years later, or for 47 months.

50X1 d. [] an officer who served in Germany for three or more years would be assigned to European Russia and not to one of the garrisons in the Far North or Central Asia as he had had "no life while in Germany".

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Security of Soviet Nationalities

50X1 15. [] Personnel Administration Armed Forces Ministry, Moscow, sent only Great Russian officers to the Soviet Zone of Germany in 1951-1953. During 1952-1953 in the Soviet Zone, he encountered only one Armenian and one Jewish officer. Officers of other nationalities - such as Estonian, Ukrainian and Georgian - were assigned to the Soviet Zone of Germany prior to 1951.

50X1 a. In conversations among themselves, the officers frequently commented on the fact that all officer replacements in the fall of 1951-1952 were only Great Russians, and that no Jewish officers were assigned to GOFG. The officers assumed that Moscow did not trust the Jews due to many desertions in the Soviet Zone of Germany by "Cosmopolitan, Israelitic" Jews.

50X1 b. Asked about the reliability of the Volga Germans, [] they have ceased to exist in the USSR. [] assigned [] was a Moslem, an Osetin, who understood only a few words of Russian and so was very inefficient. [] many Kalmyks, Tadzhiks, Tatars, etc. serving in the Soviet Army in the USSR and GOFG understood only a few words of Russian.

Educational Standards

50X1 16. Officers. [] younger officers were much more cultured than the older ones. Most junior officers today could boast a 10 class secondary education. It was a different story with the older officers. [] political officer (Zampolit), a lieutenant colonel, had only a two or three class education, while Lt. Col. (fnu) PUSHKAREV, CO of the 482nd Army MT Workshops and an officer with a good combat record, had only finished five classes of his secondary education.

50X1 17. EM. Conscripts called up last year were all of low educational standard. The wars and post-war circumstances in the USSR had forced them to quit school in order to get a job and to work. [] an estimate of standards of education amongst conscripts as follows: three to four classes, 60%; five to six classes, 20%; seven to eight classes, 15%; nine to 10 classes, five per cent - if that! [] had not come across Russian conscripts who could neither read nor write, but many of the minority races did not understand Russian.

50X1 18. [] following information on Party and Komsomol membership. [] about 11% of the EM and about 65% of the officers of his establishment and that of the 482nd Army MT workshops were members of the Communist Party. [] about 60% of all EM and junior officers were members of the Komsomol. [] Members were supposed to set an example for others, but instead they were always getting involved in breaches of discipline.

Foreign Missions in the Soviet Zone of Germany

19. []

50X1 20. [] "No Entrance" sign in four languages on the gate. If members of a foreign mission were to be seen on foot in the vicinity of the barracks they would be detained. If members of a foreign mission drove past in a car no one would have paid any attention to them.

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50X1 "Know Your Enemy" Training

50X1 21. [redacted] officers attended a lecture at Army headquarters
50X1 in 1951, at which they were told about the organization, uniform
50X1 and insignia and equipment of the American Army up to regimental
50X1 level. Drop charts were used during the lecture. [redacted]
in particular a chart depicting American, British and French uni-
forms and insignia of rank.

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[redacted] Comment: [redacted] "YANVAREV's unit"
was a Radio Interception unit.

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